

Patent claims

1. A method for selecting a list item from a selection list, in particular in an information or entertainment system in a motor vehicle, a list item which is sought either being input by means of a voice input in a voice input mode or being manually input in a manual input mode, characterized in that
 - 5 - the list item sought is input as a spoken word in the voice input mode,
 - the spoken list item sought is compared with the list items in the selection list,
 - given sufficient correspondence between the spoken list item sought and at least one of the list items from the selection list, this at least one list item is selected as a search result,
 - 10 - the system automatically changes over to the manual input mode if there is no sufficient correspondence between the spoken list item sought and at least one of the list entries in the selection list.
2. The method as claimed in claim 1, characterized in that the list item sought is input character by character using the handwriting input apparatus or a keypad in the manual input mode.
- 25 3. The method as claimed in claim 2, characterized in that there is optical or acoustic feedback after each character has been input.

4. The method as claimed in one of the preceding claims, characterized in that

- a character string which has already been manually input is automatically compared with the list items in the selection list,
- the number M of list items containing the input character string as an initial part is determined,
- the system determines whether the number M is less than a prescribed value X and greater than 1, and if this is true,
- the list items containing the input character string as an initial part are offered for selection on an optical display apparatus and/or the system changes over to the voice input mode.

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5. The method as claimed in one of the preceding claims, characterized in that the spoken word is stored before the system automatically changes over to the manual input mode.

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6. The method as claimed in claim 5, characterized in that the stored voice input signal is compared with those list items in the selection list whose initial part corresponds to the character string which has been manually input if the number of list items determined in this manner is less than a prescribed value S and, given sufficient correspondence to one of the list items in the selection list, this list item is selected

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and an indication of the selection is optically or acoustically output.

7. An information or entertainment system (1), especially in a motor vehicle, having a memory module (2) for storing a multiplicity of list items, a manual input apparatus (3b) for manually inputting a list item sought, a voice input apparatus (3a) and a voice processing apparatus (7a), a changeover module (9) for manually changing over between a manual input mode and a voice input mode, and a selection module (4) for selecting one of the list items using the list item which is sought and has been at least partially input using the manual input apparatus (3b) or the voice input apparatus (3a), characterized in that the voice processing module (7a) is designed to process a spoken word and the changeover module (9) is also designed to automatically change over between the voice input mode and the manual input mode.
8. The information or entertainment system as claimed in claim 7, characterized in that the manual input apparatus (3b) is a handwriting recognition apparatus.
9. The information or entertainment system as claimed in one of the preceding claims, characterized in that the handwriting recognition apparatus has a touch-sensitive surface.

10. The information or entertainment system as claimed in claim 9, characterized in that the touch-sensitive surface is integrated in a rotary controller.
- 5 11. The information or entertainment system as claimed in claim 9, characterized in that the information or entertainment system has a display apparatus and the touch-sensitive surface is integrated in the display apparatus, in particular in the form of a touchscreen.
- 10 12. The information or entertainment system as claimed in one of the preceding claims, characterized in that the information or entertainment system is or contains a navigation system and the list items are statements of the location.
- 15 13. The information or entertainment system as claimed in one of the preceding claims 8-12, characterized in that the information or entertainment system is or contains an audio and/or video system and the list items are transmitter frequencies or transmitter names or telephone numbers or music or video titles.
- 20 14. The information or entertainment system as claimed in one of the preceding claims, characterized in that it is an information system for public transport or for tourists.
- 25 15. The information or entertainment system as claimed in one of the preceding claims 7-13, characterized
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in that it is a bank information system.